

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15
ICA-11 HA-05 EB-08 AID-05 TRSE-00 COME-00 AGRE-00
/094 W

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R 252055Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7196
INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG
USLO PEKING

C O N F I D E N T I A L OTTAWA 02147

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: CVIS, SREF, VN, CA, HK
SUBJECT: CANADIAN-VIETNAMESE RELATIONS

REF: A) HONG KONG 11277 (SEP 77); B) OTTAWA 5177

1. COLLIER, VIETNAM DESK OFFICER AT EXTAFF, TOLD EMBOFF
APRIL 25 THAT SHIPMENT OF APPROXIMATELY 5 MILLION DOLLARS
WORTH OF WHEAT FLOUR HAD LEFT VANCOUVER WITHIN PAST SEVERAL
WEEKS FOR VIETNAM. HE SAID THAT THERE WAS NO OTHER NOTE-
WORTHY GOC AID PRESENTLY IN PIPELINE AND THAT INTER-
AGENCY COMMITTEE HAD RECENTLY REVIEWED NEW AID PACKAGE.
WHILE HE DID NOT GIVE FIGURES, HE INDICATED THAT PACKAGE
IS NOT VERY LARGE AND IS PRIMARILY AIMED AT AGRICULTURE --
A PRIORITY SECTOR IN SRV NEW 5-YEAR PLAN. WHATEVER THE
BUREAUCRATIC DECISIONS, HE ADDED, NEW AID PACKAGE WILL
NOT EVEN GO BEFORE CABINET UNTIL AFTER COMING CANADIAN
NATIONAL ELECTIONS (THIS LIKELY MEANS NOT BEFORE THE FALL
AT EARLIEST).

2. COLLIER SAID THAT GOC AMBASSADOR MENZIES HAD VISITED
HANOI IN LATE FEBRUARY AND WAS ENCOURAGED BY SRV INDICA-
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TION OF WILLINGNESS TO DISCUSS QUESTION OF WHO GIVES MEDI-
CALS TO VIETNAMESE IMMIGRANTS TO CANADA. COLLIER, HOWEVER,
SEEMED DUBIOUS RE PROSPECTS FOR REAL BREAKTHROUGH. HE
POINTED OUT, FOR EXAMPLE, THAT THIS DOES NOT TOUCH ON
QUESTION OF INTERVIEWS IN SRV BY CANADIAN IMMIGRATION
OFFICERS NOR DOES IT GIVE INDICATION AS TO WHICH TYPE
OF IMMIGRANT WILL BE ALLOWED TO LEAVE.

3. SRV OFFICIALS AT EMBASSY HERE, HE SAID, HAVE BEEN VERY QUIET ON THE WHOLE. ONLY EXCEPTIONS WERE SEVERAL PRESS CONFERENCES THEY CALLED TO STATE SRV POSITION IN DISPUTE WITH CAMBODIA. ENDERS

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